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Gender inclusive housing proposed

MEGAN STEPHENSON
ASST. NEWS EDITOR
megan.stephenson@wartburg.edu

Two Wartburg students are looking to make a change in residential life on campus.

Cassandra Hales

Abby Singleton and Todd Greer, both student senators, have been working on implementing a policy that allows for a gender inclusive living environment.

They are hoping to leave an influential mark on students and the college.

The pair have taken the first steps necessary to accomplish their goal by making contact with Cassie Hales, director of Residential Life, and Dean of Students Dr. Dan Kittle.

Hales said the policy will look to help students in transition as well as any students who are simply looking to room with a friend of the opposite gender.

"This option allows students in transition to have a space that is safe," Hales said.

"They know everyone there understands and is accepting, but it would also be a great option for individuals who just have trouble living with members of the same sex or gender."

Singleton said, if implemented, the policy would only be implemented in Knight's Village as an opportunity for seniors living in the apartments.

"It is kind of a test to make sure the policy is set right and things are written correctly to ensure we don't need to make any more revisions," Singleton said.

"We just want to make sure everything will go the way it should be going."

Since writing the proposal and presenting it to Hales, Singleton and Greer have sent the proposal on to the college cabinet.

Hales said while she has been excited about the topic for a while, she waited for students like Singleton and Greer who were willing to put together a proposal and really fight for it.

"This is something we leave in the students' hands. They have more of a drive and passion for things," Hales said.

Greer said he thinks this policy will not only help the students, but it will help the college make a prominent statement.

"Retention is a big thing. If I hadn't become an RA, I would

▸ Gender Inclusive Housing p. 2

Focus on the Future begins

Initiative creates task forces to focus on innovations and awareness

ELLYN FELTON *EDITOR-IN-CHIEF*
ellyn.felton@wartburg.edu

Wartburg's Focus on the Future initiative will meet for the first time at Wartburg College on Feb. 17, President Darrel Colson said.

Darrel Colson

He said through the six year Transforming Tomorrow campaign ideas have been proposed for the future.

"We want to be sure we're doing everything we can to provide a really good service for students," Colson said.

He said seven tasks forces will focus on academic innovation, student success and expanding the college's reach.

Dr. Todd Reiher, a professor of psychology and current chair of the faculty council, will co-chair the entire effort with Regent Sara Tomson Hooper.

Janeen Stewart, executive administrator for the president's office, has been involved in all strategic planning initiatives since she began working for the college in 1999.

Stewart will be co-directing the Focus on the Future initiative with Lia Kampman.

"This is a very focused effort that will explore targeted strategic opportunities and shape priorities in the final three years of the strategic plan," Stewart said.

She said she is coordinating four of the task forces and Kampman is coordinating the other three.

Colson said three of the task forces focusing on academic innovation will look at engineering science, health sciences and interdisciplinary programs.

He said the two task forces focusing on student success will look at student recruitment, support, engagement and satisfaction and the living and learning environment.

The two on-campus co-chairs for these topics will be Cassie Hales, director of Residential Life, and Derek Solheim the director of Pathways.

Colson said Dr. Bill Withers will be co-chair of the experiential learning and entrepreneurial endeavors task force to expand the reach of the college.

Kristin Teig-Torres, director of Community Engagement, will also be working on expanding the college's reach, as a co-chair of a task force on regional partnerships, Colson said.

He said the first goal of the task forces is to expand deep and integrative learning in the liberal arts tradition.

"We will identify and clarify the next investments we are going to make, the investments for the future," Colson said.

Stewart said while the task forces will not directly result in a new comprehensive campaign, they will hopefully generate new ideas.

Colson said he believes Focus on the Future will build a foundation for future philanthropic support, increase a sense of ownership for future initiatives and increase the awareness of the college and understanding present and future initiatives for people who might not know the school as well.

Colson said the different ideas will generate actionable ideas for the October Board of Regents meeting.

Focus on the Future Task Forces

Academic Innovation
- *Engineering sciences*
- *Health sciences*
- *Interdisciplinary programs*

Student Success
- *Living and learning environment*
- *Student recruitment, support, engagement and satisfaction*

Expanding Our Reach
- *Experiential learning and entrepreneurial endeavors*
- *Regional partnerships*

Darrel Colson, President of Wartburg College

— **Brett Schwickerath**/*Trumpet*

Vogel and Bechtel to serve in Peru over Winter Break

EMILY RUSSELL *KNIGHTLIFE EDITOR*
emily.russell@wartburg.edu

Student Body President Tyler Vogel and Assistant Professor of Science Education Dr. Michael Bechtel received funding to build bat houses in Peru over Winter Break to help prevent the spread of malaria.

"My freshman IS class was Social Entrepreneurship. Some upperclassmen students wanted to start a Hult Prize and needed underclassmen representation. We came up with an idea and submitted it," Vogel said.

Even though the idea did not get accepted, the group was led to the Clinton Global Initiative Conference, which helps young entrepreneurs and social innovators branch out ideas.

"For our next idea, I thought, 'What about malaria? What is a sustainable approach to tackling issues related to malaria in developing nations?' We submitted our bat house idea and got accepted into the Clinton Global Initiative," Vogel said.

Vogel and his fellow students received funding to attend the conference. In April of 2014, the group participated in four rounds of competitions alongside schools such as Harvard and Oxford.

"The last round was like Shark Tank and we were one of the winners. We became provisional resolution fellows, so then we had this networking community of people that is designed to help you get funding and help you succeed in your venture."

For the next two years, the group, with the help of Dr. Michael Bechtel, worked toward bringing their bat house idea to Malawi, Africa.

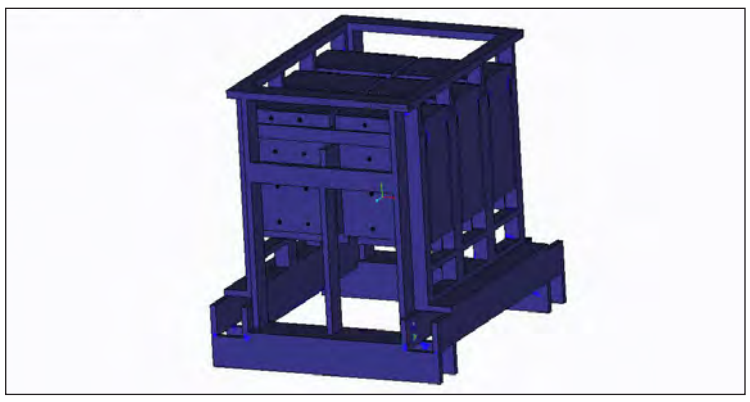
They spent a year and a half calling and emailing, struggling to make contacts.

"When you know it's something that can make a difference, it's hard to give up."

— Tyler Vogel

"The more I got involved with it, the more I realized this could actually be used in third world countries as a way to reduce the malaria cases," Bechtel said.

Bechtel went to Peru in the summer with students from the University of Minnesota.



This blueprint of the bat house was created by students from the Wartburg Engineering Department. The units will be constructed by Tyler Vogel and Dr. Michael Bechtel in Peru. — **Submitted photo**

From there, Bechtel realized they also have a malaria crisis, which gave him the idea for Vogel to bring his idea to Peru.

"We had some engineering students design a bat house of 5,000 bats with a guano collection for farming," Bechtel said.

Once there, they will be making the houses themselves, along with a couple other people.

Part of the reason why this project is possible is the support from One Planet and several other organizations.

"My favorite part has been working with Vogel. He has unbelievable amounts of energy. He has these goals and I like how he gets you excited about things," Bechtel said.

"Like, what did I know about bat houses before we started? And then all of a sudden, we start going through this, and I'm like, 'This is really cool.'"

Vogel said he is nervous but excited for the implementation of the project.

"You're always nervous when you go out of your comfort zone. When you know it's something that can make a difference, it's hard to give up," Vogel said.

The two will be in Peru for the duration of winter break.

Professor offers chance to meet the governor

MEG HARPER *NEWS EDITOR*
meg.harper@wartburg.edu

Wartburg College's BA 377 Non-Profit Management class will be traveling to the state Capitol on Feb. 21 to meet with the governor and advocate for benefit corporations.

Visiting Professor of Business Emmalinde Roelofse, is offering the chance for eight students to meet the governor.

Connor Fogle, one of the students taking BA 377 this semester, has done extensive research on benefit corporations and their contributions.

A benefit corporation is a legal protection so founders can sell their business or have a public company without being entirely accountable for just pure profits to shareholders.

"These businesses can have a mission that has a social value that is not necessarily accounted for. This protects companies from having to sell their company to someone who does not agree with the ideas behind their mission," Fogle said.

According to Fogle and Roelofse, 30 states plus Washington D.C. already have benefit corporations, but Iowa does not.

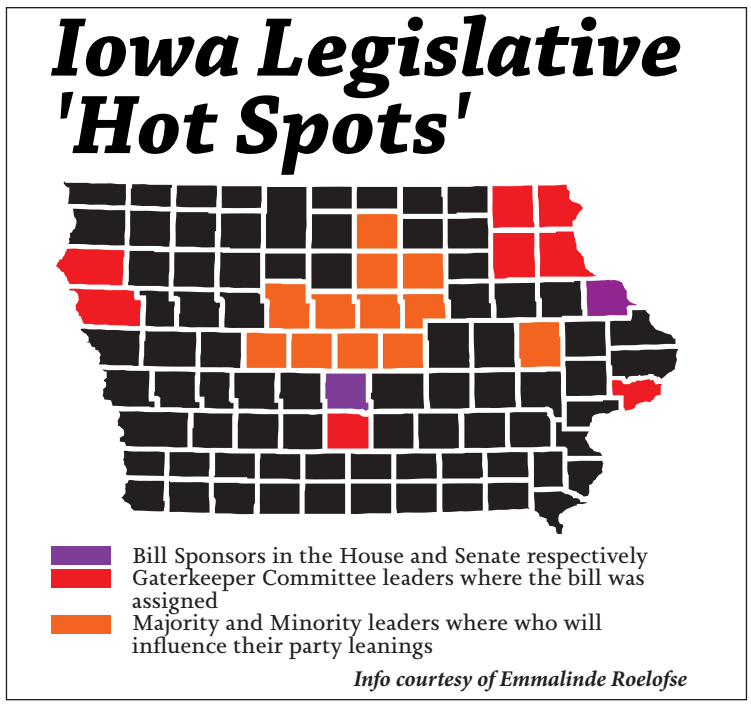
The two said the idea has been proposed many times, but has not been a legislative priority.

"We are looking for eight students who would like to go with us and ideally help advocate for benefit corporations by talking to government officials," Roelofse said.

Roelofse said the class received a small grant that pays for transportation to and from Des Moines.

They have eight seats available for students wishing to participate.

"Iowa House District 100 Rep. Charles (Chuck) Isenhart is working with us to get this trip organized and is also the person who authored the bill proposing the addition of benefit corporations, House File 62," Roelofse said.



Wartburg students from these "hot spot" locations will be prioritized for a chance to travel to the capitol and advocate for benefit corporations with the BA 377 class. — **Brett Schwickerath**/*TRUMPET*

Fogle and Roelofse said throughout the day, the group will be speaking with legislators and committees, touring the Capitol and meeting with the governor.

"We want people who are interested in politics and benefit corporations, but we need people who can persuade and push these legislators about this issue. Legislators will pay more attention to someone they represent as opposed to someone from out of state," Roelofse said.

"That is not to say we do not want people from out of state to participate, we do. There are simply some 'hot spot' districts and we do not have students from some of these 'hot spots' to represent us."

Roelofse said this is why they are reaching out to students on campus for help, in exchange for a free trip to meet the governor. Students from these "hot spot" locations will get first priority.

"We are trying to reframe what it means to be a business leader. Business should not just be about money. Benefit corporations genuinely benefit from looking at things in a broader way.

Society is moving in that direction and so are many other states. It is time for Iowa to do the same," Roelofse said.

Though students who are members of the "hot spot" districts are especially welcome, any student who is passionate about politics and making a difference is encouraged to sign up at https://goo.gl/NNbVzz for a chance to win one of the eight spots.

The deadline to sign up is Thursday, Feb. 16 by 11:59 p.m. Winners will be announced on Friday morning via at https://bcorp4iowa.wordpress.com/.

Library extends hours

KAITLYN WILLIAMS *OP-ED EDITOR*
kaitlyn.williams@wartburg.edu

Recently, the Vogel Library extended their hours to open at 9 a.m. on Saturdays.

"The library hours were extended in direct response to student feedback," said Circulations Services Supervisor Mary Reding.

Mary Reding

Reding said discussions with Student Senate as well as a survey from Fall Term indicated the interest in more weekend access.

Lily Zheng is a student working the new Saturday morning shift.

"We have yet to see many students take advantage of the extension."

— Mary Reding

"It is a little frustrating when most student don't realize we have extended hours so we end up with very few students studying here at that time," Zheng said.

Zheng said one weekend they didn't have any students at 9 a.m. and only seven by 10 a.m..

"We have yet to see many students actually take advantage of the extension," Reding said.

Reding said more time will hopefully give a better sense of student responses, but direct student reactions are generally positive.

Reding said that the library student workers are excellent.

"We are both proud of and grateful for how willing they are to take on additional shifts to make things work," Reding said.

With the new extended hours, many students are looking for more extended hours.

"As a student worker I don't mind working on a weekend. As a student, I would like to see extended hours during the week days to 1 a.m. or even 2 a.m.," Zheng said.

Reding said there are many different variables to consider before the library could go 24 hours a day.

She said to go 24 hours would mean the library would possibly need card readers, video cameras or sectioning off parts of the library.

Zheng agreed with Reding.

"As a student worker, to be honest, I don't think it's at all realistic," Zheng said.

"I think it's going to be very difficult to find any student who'd be willing to work until 2 a.m. every week."

Reding said that library staff members have also extended their hours.

"Like our student employees, our library staff members have to take on additional morning hours to accommodate the change," Reding said.

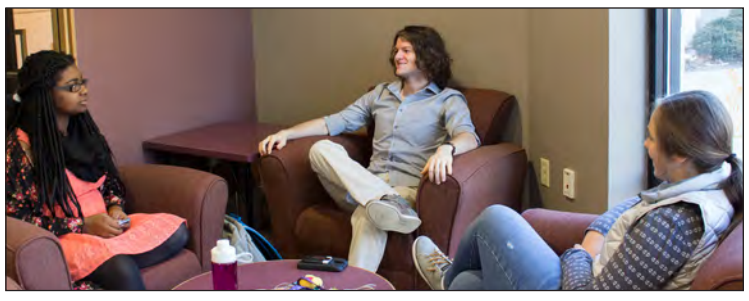
Reding said they do this because they believe the increased hours benefit the Wartburg students.

She said the true goal is to make the librarians, the space and the resources available as much as possible to encourage lifelong learning.

"We hope Saturday mornings at the library will come to be known as a nice time to relax, maybe grab a coffee and get some studying out of the way before weekend fun begins," Reding said.

Zheng said from a student perspective, she agrees with Reding.

"I think it's a great idea for students that want to wake up early and get the homework out of the way so they can enjoy the rest of the weekend," Zheng said.



Todd Greer hopes to share an apartment with his friends of the opposite gender next year in Knights. — **Rochelle Beardsley**/*TRUMPET*

Gender inclusive housing

▸ **Contin. from p. 1**

have had a difficult time finding a roommate to where it might have affected how felt towards the college. If we can get people to environments that they want to live in they could probably keep students on campus longer," Greer said.

Greer said the college would be showing that they care about people who are different and who have different preferences.

Singleton and Greer have also started to talk to students around campus to help raise awareness and gain backing of their proposal.

"Even the people who wouldn't utilize it said they wouldn't mind if somebody else did it because it wouldn't affect them," said Greer, "they wouldn't be forced into it and they like that it is an option."

"I have heard nothing but positive things. A lot of people are just excited about the opportunity," Singleton said.

The pair is hoping that the cabinet decision will be made in time for the March housing lottery.

Hales said she hopes the opportunity will eventually spread to other residential facilities.

"We would like to see this policy catch on and grow into other dorms such as Grossman and Manors. We don't want it to stop at Knight's Village. We want it to keep on progressing," Greer said.

"It would just allow students to be more comfortable with who they are and who they are around, which just makes the entire college experience that much better," Singleton said.

Prank calls reported from Grossmann

AMBER ROTTINGHAUS *SPORTS EDITOR*
amber.rottinghaus@wartburg.edu

Waverly Police have received at least seven prank 911 calls from the public phones in Grossmann Hall in the last three months.

The police and Wartburg security personnel both responded to each phone call, and searched the entire building.

Most of the calls originated from the first floor on the south side. However, no students have come forward with ties or information on this issue.

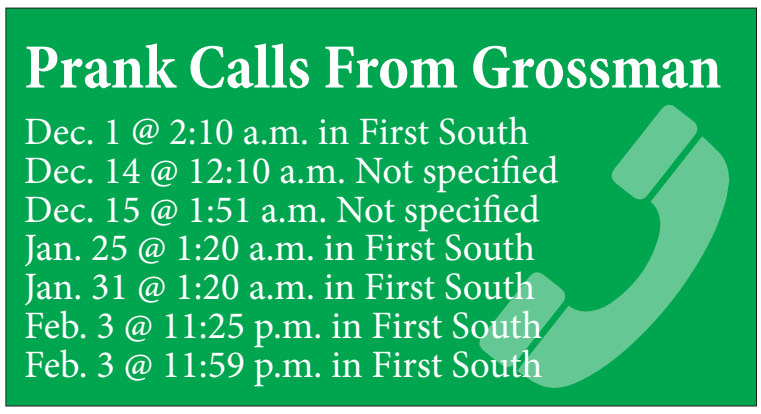
"It's juvenile, it's petty, it's illegal," John Meyers, director of campus security and safety, said.

"The police take their time to respond and they're going on good faith that somebody is genuinely in trouble."

Meyers said each time a prank call was made, at least two police officers responded.

Waverly Police Chief Richard Pursell said one of the calls took an officer away from a fire alarm call.

"Pranks are intended to be just for fun, but a little more forethought should be used when it comes to 911 calls since officers could be pulled from a real emergency situation," Pursell said.



Waverly Police have reported at least seven prank 911 calls from the public phones in Grossmann Hall. The callers have not yet been identified and the case remains open. — **Brett Schwickerath**/*TRUMPET*

Consequences for pranks like this consist of a simple misdemeanor charge and a maximum fine of $100 or 30 days in jail.

Residents in Grossmann and Löhe have been asked to keep a look out for the callers.

Campus security personnel have also reported vandalism of the public phones, including breaking and stealing the phone.Security personnel are now discussing the removal of the phones.

Meyers said he asked Residence Life to create a poll for students in Löhe and Grossmann to see how many student utilize the public phones.

Meyers said there was a similar problem around five years ago, when students had landline phones in their rooms. Eventually, those phones were removed.

Meyers is hoping these incidences top, and encourages students to avoid criminal activity.

"You don't want to graduate with a bachelor's degree and a criminal record," he said.

Wartburg represented across U.S.A.

Sports teams represent Wartburg in Florida

MARIA MUNGUIA CORTES *STAFF WRITER*
maria.munguiacortes@wartburg.edu

Wartburg tennis, softball and baseball teams were scattered in Florida over winter break.

Friday afternoon, Feb. 24, the softball team headed to Clermont, Florida arriving Saturday afternoon.

The team did not waste any time and they started playing games on Sunday morning.

In Florida, the team played a total of eight games in the "Spring Games," tournament.

The team headed to Lexington, Kentucky the following Friday morning where they played four more games in the "Transylvania Tournament."

The team arrived back in Waverly Sunday night before classes.

In the sunshine state, the softball team was able to go to Universal Studios for their day off.

"Most evenings were free, and we had one full off day – but our focus was on the games we were going to play and spending time together as a team to help build our team chemistry," second-year softball coach, Jamie Mueller said.

"Our main focus down in Florida was softball, but we had an off day during the week to do different activities.

"After our games we had time to relax, spend time with family, or go the pool until our scheduled event that night," third-year softball player, Sarah Grabowski said.

Florida is the prime destination for the softball team to travel is due to the available tournaments during the Winter Break week.

The team has been going to Florida for the past couple of years.

"There aren't many teams who are on break at the same time we are and that tournament has pretty good competition during our break week," Mueller said.

Chris Gustas, tennis coach and Wartburg alumnus said the same thing about the tennis team's tournaments.

"Because our spring/winter break is so early compared to other schools, we go to Orlando, Florida because that is where we have matches to play," Gustas said.

Wartburg's tennis team has been going to Florida for Winter Break for the past couple of years due to this.

In the past the team has traveled to South Carolina.

Gustas was a tennis player for Wartburg and said they went to Florida in 2010 and 2011 when he was in college.

The tennis team was able to play tournaments at USTA National Campus which is the biggest tennis complex in the world.

While the tennis team was playing, there were other professional tennis players playing there as well.

"If I had to choose one main thing I loved, it would be playing at the USTA campus," tennis player, Rachel Zittergruen said.

"The campus opened in January, so the brand new facility was top notch and very impressive.

"It was such a great opportunity to play the game you love, at the nicest tennis facility in the world," Zittergruen said.

"Playing at the USTA National Campus was a blast.

"No one on the team has experienced it before so it was a really fun and new experience to play down there," first-year tennis player, Lauren O'Brian said.

The Wartburg softball team competed in Florida over Winter Break. Tennis and baseball teams also traveled to Florida to play. Teams had free time to go to the beach and Univeral Studios. — **Submitted photo**

The men's tennis team played five meets while the women's team played four.

Gustas hand picks what teams to play against while at their matches. He said he uses Universal Tennis ratings to help him decide.

"I look for schools that are close to our skill level or I go back to prior teams we have played, but for the most part I'm looking to make close matches," Gustas said.

In their down time, they went to Clearwater Beach, Universal Studios and they shopped.

"There was some down time there because the times of our meets allowed for some time to do other activities.

"I think playing the teams down there started to prepare us to get ready for season.

"It showed what we should focus on more when we get back to Wartburg," O'Brian said.

These teams were away from home during the Winter Break, but to them, it's all worth it.

"I missed my friends and family a lot, but given this great opportunity, I could not pass it up," Zittergruen said.

She said there was definitely some perks of traveling south for the break.

"Florida is warm and sunny so there was no doubt that I was going on the trip," Zittergruen said.

"It was kind of tough not to be able to go home, but I'm from Ely, Iowa which is only one hour and 20 minutes away so I can go home some weekends pretty easily.

"Also, the trip was so much fun so that made it easier to not want to be at home," said O'Brian.

"It can be tough knowing that I am unable to go home for break but I would rather be playing softball with my teammates.

"We have the opportunity to travel and compete against teams we normally would not be able to play," Grabowski said.

"My team is my second family, so not being able to go is not as bad knowing I get to spend time my team," she said.

Service trips travel thousands of miles on break

MITCH WILLIAMS *STAFF WRITER*
mitchell.williams1@wartburg.edu

"Wartburg College service trips are a good way for students to learn about social injustice issues that face the country," Kristin Teig -Torres, Director of Community Engagement said.

"Students can acquire team building skills, adaptability, problem solving, all while experiencing populations that are diverse and culturally different than what students are used to," Teig-Torres said.

Over Winter Break, students traveled to Tennessee to work on the trail system and to New York City to teach Junior Achievement in the inner city schools.

Students also went to Denver, Colorado to work with immigration and poverty issues. Students in Florida worked with the Guadalupe Center and other organizations in Immokalee.

Andrew Linkletter, who went to Florida over break, said this was the first service trip he was a part of.

"I learned how grateful I should be for what I'm given and simple things that most people take for granted," Linkletter said.

Linkletter said he wanted to go on a service trip to gain new perspectives and see how people in other parts of the country grow up and the conditions in which they live.

Johanna Ender, who went to New York City to teach Junior Achievement in inner city schools, said she learned a lot about life in big cities over break.

"Seeing the diversity and the different places where people come from in these inner-city schools was a really interesting part of the trip," Ender said.

She said students should go on these service trips because it provides a way to give back not only in your community but have an impact somewhere else in the country.

"All these trips have such an impact on the people that go on them because they come back with a new perspective," Ender said. "I think a lot of it is learning there are people living in different situations that we can't imagine while at Wartburg College."

Linkletter said service trips are a good way of finding yourself.

"It's your own way of saying thank-you by helping someone else," Linkletter said.

Students on the Florida service trip cleared patios and plants for rural neighborhoods who were in need of assistance. — **Submitted photo**

Teig-Torres said the trips are dedicated to providing opportunities that actively engage participants with communities through service.

"Our vision is to inspire participants to create social change by leading lives of continual learning and service," Teig Torres said.

She hopes all Wartburg students would apply for a service trip during their time in college.

"It provides a safe leadership opportunity," Teig-Torres said. "If they [students] take the chance and participate as a first or second-year student, they will find themselves ready to co-lead a trip during their third or fourth year."

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Lacrosse taking next step

TYLER FRENCH *STAFF WRITER*
tyler.french@wartburg.edu

Jessa Thorn (left) practices a drill with Theresa Havlik during a practice last season. Head coach Anna Meerbach has high hopes for the program and players this season —**Trumpet file photo**

Wartburg Lacrosse head coach Anna Meerbach is entering into her second year at the helm of the program and has set new expectations for her team.

The lacrosse team is only in its third year as an official Wartburg sport, but Meerbach is already the second coach in its history.

After two different coaches in the first two years, Meerbach is now able to add stability to the team and said things are definitely different than last year.

"I think coming into this year, it's less about me being a new coach and us being a new program, and more about where we want to go as a team," Meerbach said.

Meerbach came to Wartburg after serving as an assistant coach at Lebanon Valley College.

She said while she was at Lebanon Valley, the lacrosse team was regularly ranked in the top 30 and received a lot of national recognition.

This was something Meerbach has been used to, even back to her playing days.

While attending college at Elizabethtown College, Meerbach was a three year starter as a defender and was even named team captain for her senior season.

She experienced a lot of success as a player, making it to the NCAA Tournament twice and advancing as far as the Sweet Sixteen.

One thing that excited Meerbach about this year's team is the experience of players that have been a part of the program since the beginning.

"It would be quicker to tell you how she hasn't helped our team transform."

— Karolina Paulsen

She said they could help change the outcome of closer games the team has played in the past.

One of those veteran players is starting goalie Karolina Paulsen and she spoke highly of her second-year head coach.

"It would be quicker to tell you about how she hasn't helped our team transform," Paulsen said. "She's a very talented coach."

Wartburg is coming off of a 7-10 season, including a 3-6 record in conference play.

However, Paulsen and Meerbach think the team is headed in the right direction.

Paulsen said one of the goals this season is to move away from being considered the new kids on the block.

They are going to focus on qualifying for the conference tournament and making some noise in postseason play.

The lacrosse team begins their season on Feb. 28 in St. Louis, Missouri as they take on the Lindenwood University Lions.

Meerbach said this season will be different than the previous years.

"The overall skill level is completely different," Meerbach said.

"If you compare us right now in preseason to where we were at the end of the last season, it's a whole brand new team."

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Wednesday - Feb. 15
WBB @ Dubuque, 6 p.m.
MBB @ Dubuque, 8 p.m.

Saturday- Feb. 18
MTEN vs. Millikin, 1 p.m.
WBB vs. Buena Vista, 2 p.m.
MBB vs. Buena Vista, 4 p.m.
MTEN @ Cornell, 5 p.m.
WITRACK vs. Wartburg Invite
MITRACK vs. Wartburg Invite

IIAC WRESTLING STANDINGS		
Wartburg	20-0	8-0
Loras	12-7	7-1
Central	10-2	6-2
Coe	11-8	5-3
Luther	8-8	4-4
Dubuque	7-10	3-5
Simpson	6-9	2-6
Buena Vista	2-7	1-7
Neb. Wesleyan	1-9	0-8

IIAC MEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS		
Loras	17-6	10-4
Buena Vista	14-9	10-4
Neb. Wesleyan	16-7	10-5
Simpson	10-13	7-7
Dubuque	9-12	6-6
Wartburg	14-9	6-8
Central	12-11	6-8
Coe	9-14	5-9
Luther	4-17	2-12

IIAC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS		
Wartburg	21-2	13-1
Luther	14-9	10-4
Loras	14-9	8-6
Buena Vista	12-11	8-6
Coe	11-12	6-8
Neb. Wesleyan	12-11	6-9
Simpson	9-15	6-9
Dubuque	9-14	5-9
Central	9-14	2-12

25 in a row for wrestling

Wartburg wrestling won their 25th consecutive IIAC championship Thursday with a 32-0 win over 16th ranked Loras College. This is the first IIAC championship shutout since Wartburg beat Buena Vista in 2005. Next up for Wartburg will be the NCAA Central Regionals on Feb. 25 at the Five Flags Center in Dubuque.—**Sports Information photo**

Wartburg defeats Luther to claim championship

TYLER FRENCH *STAFF WRITER*
tyler.french@wartburg.edu

The women's basektball team brought home an IIAC regular season championship last Wednesday night.

Wartburg and Luther both start the game going back and forth, having the game tied at 8-8 early on. That was the last time the game would be tied for the rest of the contest.

The Knights used a poor shooting first half from Luther, which included 0-15 from downtown, to take an 18 point lead.

The closest the Norse got to Wartburg in the second half was 14 points.

The half provided offensive fireworks for Wartburg, especially for the Sommer twins as they connected four times for three pointers in the forth quarter, helping seal the win.

Freshman Emma Gerdes also had a big game, collecting a career high 13 rebounds and getting her first double-double as a Knight.

Four Knights finished in double figures, led by Kristie Sommer's 18. Katie Sommer finished the game with seven assists, putting her two shy of setting a school record for assists in a season. This would break a record she set last season.

With the win, Wartburg secured its first Iowa Conference Championship under head coach Bob Amsberry.

The Knights also secured the number one seed and home court advantage for the Iowa Conference Tournament.

For updates, visit wartburgtrumpet.com

TRUMPET

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